



March 20, 2018

The *Connecticut Hospital Association*, the *Connecticut State Medical Society*, *LeadingAge Connecticut*, *The Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home*, and the *Connecticut Association of Healthcare Facilities* have come together as **The CT Healthcare Association Collaborative - the united voice for providers on healthcare issues impacting Connecticut residents.**

- **We remain deeply concerned about potential threats to the funding and structure of the Affordable Care Act, Medicare, and Medicaid**, and the impact it may have on Connecticut patients, providers, and communities. Changes to the Affordable Care Act or to Medicaid and Medicare programs will adversely affect our providers and the people they serve.
- **Connecticut residents have benefitted from the Affordable Care Act and the expansion of the Medicaid program**, which provides a lifeline to 20% of Connecticut citizens. It is the most important financial resource available to families who need help covering the cost of long-term services and supports, whether in their homes and communities or in nursing homes.
- **Our shared goal is to ensure that all Connecticut residents receive access to high quality and affordable healthcare and long-term services and supports**, and that the providers who care for them are reimbursed appropriately.

Medicaid Program Restructuring

Any Medicaid restructuring should ensure that beneficiaries continue to have access to high-quality healthcare coverage. In addition, Medicaid restructuring should be designed to ensure that providers are appropriately paid for the healthcare and long-term care services provided, including mechanisms to correct the current inadequate levels of reimbursement for many Medicaid providers.

Changing Medicaid to a block grant or per capita cap financing system would negatively affect access to quality hospital care, healthcare, and long-term services and supports for older adults and other vulnerable populations in Connecticut. This type of change in the financing system would threaten the security of millions of people who count on the program throughout their life span, including in their later years, and further threaten the financial viability of many of the providers who care for them.

Medicare

Medicare must remain a strong and guaranteed health program for our seniors.

Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, and other safety net programs must be adequately funded and no further reductions to hospitals, physicians, skilled nursing facilities, home care, or other safety net providers should be considered.

We continue to stand together in opposition to any Congressional action that endangers access to quality care and that would end Medicare and Medicaid as we know it.



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